

## Iowa Code Language for Making a Bus Purchase

**281—43.25(285) Local board procedure.** The board of education shall proceed as follows in purchasing school buses:

**43.25(1)** Use separate specification and bid request sheets. (Iowa Code section 285.10(7) “*b*” requires body and chassis to be bought on separate contracts unless the bus is constructed as an integral unit, inseparable as to body and chassis, by the manufacturer or is used or demonstrator bus.)

**43.25(2)** Notify body and chassis dealers of intent to purchase school transportation equipment and request bids.

**43.25(3)** Reserve right to reject all bids.

**43.25(4)** Require all bids to be on comparable equipment which meets all state and federal requirements.

**43.25(5)** Hold an open meeting for dealers to present merits of their equipment.

**43.25(6)** Review bids, tabulate all bids, make a record of action taken.

**43.25(7)** Sign separate contracts or orders for purchase of body and chassis. Purchase agreement must provide that dealer will deliver equipment which will pass initial state inspection at no further cost to school and further provide that school board shall withhold at least \$150 until vehicle passes initial state inspection.

**43.25(8)** Notify the bureau of nutrition programs and school transportation of the state department of education of purchase and date of delivery so that arrangements can be made for the initial school bus inspection. No school bus can be put into service until it has passed a pre-use inspection conducted pursuant to Form TR-F-27B by the local board of education and the form has been provided to the bureau of nutrition programs and school transportation. The initial school bus inspection will be conducted at the earliest possible time convenient to the school and the department of education.